

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2015 – 10:00 AM**

Present: Chair, Lorn Buxton, David McGuckin, Selectman, William Stewart, Selectman, and Bette Jane Riordan, Secretary.

Also present: Chief Don White, Pam Cullen, Terry Barnes, Building Inspector, Andy Schulte, Jim Cerny, Rita Fusco, and Michael O'Shaughnessy.

Chair Buxton convened the meeting at 10:00 AM. **1. Approve Select Board minutes of June 15, 2015.**

Approved as amended.

2. Acknowledgments.

Chair Buxton acknowledged the following for their efforts in making the Town's 4th of July Parade a success; The Parade Committee and the Fire Department. He also acknowledged Mary Pat Gibson and a sub-committee of the Garden Club for their plantings at the corner of Main Street and Wentworth Road.

3. Public Q&A.

Andy Schulte stated that Select Board Minutes have not been available in a timely fashion and cited a portion of NH RSA 91-A, Right to Know law. The Board clarified its process and agreed that draft minutes should be made available to the public within 5 business days. Pam was directed to provide a Memorandum to other boards and commissions regarding timely filing of minutes with the Town Clerk.

4. Items.

a. Michael O'Shaughnessy, General Manager, Wentworth by the Sea, letter of 6-10-15.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy requested Town support for a crosswalk on Rte. 1-B and the painting of an existing cross walk for public safety.

After acknowledging that this is a State of NH road, the Board discussed the proposed location and heard recommendations from Police Chief White. The Board suggested the hotel repaint the crosswalk by the bridge, and both the Wentworth and the Police Department would send letters to the NH DOT (Both to State Office and Division 6) requesting assistance with the other proposed crosswalk.

b. Rodney Rowland – school renovation.

Mr. Rowland was not present; the Select Board called him to clarify what information he had either intended to present or request from the Board. Because the school is located within the Historic District, there was a question whether the school project was subject to local land use board reviews and/or approvals. There was also a question regarding the requirements for the school to obtain building permits for the renovation as well as permits for sub-contractors.. The Select Board agreed to the following:

1. The building needs to comply with all building codes.
2. A permit will be required for the shed and applied for separately.

3. The Board had already waived the fee for the building permit for the renovation, but is will consider how to proceed with the fees for the other necessary permits. Mr. Rowland indicated that there was no budget for sub-contractor fees.
4. After discussion and debate over application of local land use ordinances and State law, it was the sense of the Board to consult with legal counsel to clarify which takes precedence.

c. 1 Steamboat Lane.

Selectman Stewart stated that the applicants were supposed to come before the Select Board but are not present. He will follow up and report back.

d. Ritson Street.

Selectman Stewart stated that nothing has changed with this matter and that no action is needed.

e. PA-28- Property Inventory Forms.

Pam Cullen reported the annual census forms are rarely complete or correct; are not used for any purpose, and therefore serve no purpose. They are time consuming to process and very few towns use them anymore.. After discussion, Selectman McGuckin made a Motion to eliminate the PA-28 Form, effective immediately. Selectman Stewart seconded, and the Motion carried.

5. Other Old Business.

a. Water & Sewer Rates.

Chair Buxton reported that the Water & Sewer Commission has requested the continued review of minimums and a different calculation of the rate without the minimums. He explained how the use of minimums captures depreciation expenses.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of changing the billing system while the Town awaits the potential transfer to the City of Portsmouth. The matter was placed on the Agenda for the July 20, 2015 Select Board meeting.

6. New Business.

a. Church request for parking.

Selectman McGuckin reported that the Church Guild has requested permission to use the dirt parking area next to the firing range on Saturday, July 25, 2015 from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM for their Annual Artisan Fair. The Board approved the request.

b. Replacement of Street lights.

Chairman Buxton stated that streetlights should be replaced with LED lights. According to Pam Cullen, the cost to replace one light was \$300.00, and the item is not in the budget. There 9 lights which need replacing. Chief White stated that there might be grant money to assist with the expense. One possible solution is to contact Sandy Bisset and the Energy Committee. Chair Buxton will research this matter including any agreement with PSNH and report back.

7. Committee Reports.

a. HDC.

Chair Buxton stated that the HDC agreed to post notices for work sessions and to notify abutters.

b. Fire Department.

Selectman Stewart stated he will attach an electronic version of his report to the minutes. He stated Chief Blanding has 4 potential new volunteers most of whom are EMT's. The department is on track with budget and has no areas of concern.

c. New Castle Common.

Selectman McGuckin reported that revenue from the Common is approximately \$5,000 behind the same time period last year, primarily due to weather.

d. Police Department.

Selectman McGuckin stated the police reported 20 activity items including 5 arrests for trespassing (Fort Stark), and 2 false alarms. Chief White reported that motor vehicle stops are up.

8. Other New Business.

Chief White reported on complaints about loud fireworks, some within the village area and explained they were not the allowable Class C fireworks. The Board will further research this matter with the Fire Department and provide their findings and recommendations in terms of ordinance revisions or additions.

There being no further business before the Board, the Chair called for a Motion to Adjourn. Selectman McGuckin made the Motion to Adjourn, which was seconded by Selectman Stewart. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35.